

## House Republican Press Release

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Press Office: 860-240-8700

### Stone, Tymniak Vote Funds for Beach Erosion



State Reps. Cathy C. Tymniak, R-133, and Jack Stone, R-134, today voted to advance legislation creating a \$450,000 pilot program to address shoreline erosion in Fairfield and Milford.

Reps. Stone and Tymniak, both members of the legislature's Appropriations Committee, voted to approve the legislation, HB 5803, and send it to the full state House of Representatives for a debate and a vote.

The measure is expected to be adopted before the state legislature reaches its constitutional adjournment date of May 3.

Rep. Stone said, "The Connecticut shoreline is an important natural resource--as well as an economic attraction for visitors, homeowners and businesses. We have an obligation to find ways to reverse the erosion that takes place due to waves, tides and currents."

Rep. Tymniak said, "I applaud the state Department of Environmental Protection for picking Fairfield for this pilot project. Fairfield beaches experience some of the worst beach erosion in the state. This pilot program will be fully funded by the state, so the town will not incur any additional expenses."

Rep. Tymniak added, "Protecting the environment of Long Island Sound has been a top priority of state and local governments for many years. This legislation is a continuing step toward preserving the beautiful and valuable shoreline along the Sound."

The legislation allocates \$450,000 to the state Department of Environmental Protection beginning July 1, 2006, for grants to Fairfield and Milford to establish pilot programs to permanently reverse beach erosion and loss of oxygen in the Sound waters.

Rep. Stone noted, "There was an attempt to dilute the funding by adding the town of Old Lyme to the project. This would have reduced the amount for each town. We were able to get the bill restored to its original language."